



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Joseph R. BYRUM

Appl. No.: 09/606,977

Filed: June 28, 2000

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Plants

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Marianne P. ALLEN

Atty. Docket: 16517.144/38-21(15877)B

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 23, 2002 (paper number 13), Applicant submits the following amendments and remarks.

REMARKS

The application presently contains claims 1-19. In the Office Action mailed May 23, 2002, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 1-7, drawn to polynucleotides, classified in at least for example, Class 536, subclass 23.1.

Group II: Claims 8-10, drawn to a polynucleotide with two defined ends, classified in at least for example Class 536, subclass 23.1.

Group III: Claims 11-15, drawn to a transformed plant, classified in Class 435.

Group IV: Claims 16-19, drawn to a method of screening for a trait, classified in at least for example Class 435, subclass 6.